

# REPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

## UNITED STATES SENATE

SUBJECT: Ambassadorial Nomination: Certificate of  
Demonstrated Competence -- Foreign Service  
Act, Section 304(a)(4)

POST: Republic of Korea

CANDIDATE: Mark William Lippert

Mark William Lippert, currently Chief of Staff/The Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, former Assistant Secretary of Defense, and U.S. Navy veteran with service in Iraq and Afghanistan, is known as a talented leader and manager with extensive knowledge of foreign affairs, the military, and legislative and interagency processes. Experienced in high-level policy making with expertise in Asia, and U.S. government operations and political processes, he will bring essential skills to the task of furthering relations with the Korea, a critical ally and a linchpin of security and prosperity in Asia.

Previously, Mr. Lippert served as Assistant Secretary of Defense, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, the Department of Defense (05/2012-05/2013), Intelligence Officer, Naval Special Warfare Development Group, Virginia Beach, Virginia (10/2009-12/2011), Chief of Staff and Deputy Assistant to the President, National Security Council (01/2009-10/2009), Deputy Director for Foreign Policy of the Obama-Biden Transition Project, Chicago, Illinois and Washington, D.C. (11/2008- 01/2009), Senior Foreign Policy Advisor for Obama for America, Chicago, Illinois (08/2008-11/2008), Foreign Policy Advisor, Office of Senator Barack Obama, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. (05/2005-08/2008), Intelligence Officer, Seal Team One, Coronado, California (06/2007-05/2008), Professional Staff Member on the Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on State-Foreign Operations, United States Senate (08/2000-05/2005), Policy Advisor to the Democratic Policy Committee of the United States Senate (01/1999-08/2000) and Legislative Correspondent in the Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein, United States Senate (07/1998-01/1998). He served on active duty in the U.S. Navy from 2007 to 2008 and 2009 to 2011, and is currently an Intelligence Officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Mr. Lippert earned a B.A. in 1997 and a M.A. in 1998 from Stanford University, Stanford, California. He was Phi Beta Kappa at Stanford University, graduating With Distinction, and the recipient of numerous medals from the Department of Defense (civilian and military), including the Secretary of Defense Outstanding Public Service Medal Bronze Star Medal, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. He speaks Mandarin Chinese.